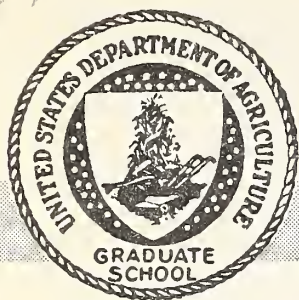


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Newsletter

GRADUATE SCHOOL ★ USDA

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INTERNSHIP COOPERATION WITH LAND-GRANT INSTITUTIONS

A recent memorandum by Secretary of Agriculture Anderson announced establishment of a program of internship cooperation between USDA and the Land-Grant Colleges and Universities.

Through this plan, post graduate and post doctorate personnel from the institutions will receive research and other experience under the direction of USDA's scientific staff in Washington and in Beltsville. Recommended by the GS General Administration Board after a review of the proposal by a committee of agency representatives, joint exploration of the proposal was suggested by Secretary Anderson to the Land-Grant Association last spring. A joint committee from the Association and USDA worked out the plan; later it was approved by the Association and the GS Board.

GS will coordinate and integrate the plan within USDA and will serve as general liaison with Land-Grant Institutions. Named by the Secretary as a committee to develop procedures for and carry forward this cooperative program were R. Y. Winters (ARA), Chairman, R. C. Engberg (FCA), Gladys Gallup (Ext.), W. H. Larrimer (FS), E. A. Norton (SCS), S. K. Newell (PMA), and O. C. Stine (BAE).

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

A brief summary of the role of the Graduate School in USDA is included in the 1947 Report of the Secretary of Agriculture. See Professional Development, page 150, of the 1947 annual report.

PERSONNEL AND PROGRAM NEEDS IN RESEARCH AND MARKETING

Activities under the Research and Marketing Act of 1946 have spotlighted two closely related problems needing close attention:

1. The need for more adequately prepared personnel.
2. The type of curricula designed to produce personnel adequately prepared.

Not only is there a current shortage of personnel, but, unless effective corrective steps are taken, the gap between personnel needs and resources will widen because of the rate of program expansion scheduled under the provisions of the Act.

On the short-term problem, two significant steps have been taken to meet needs here in Washington; a special 15-week six credit course to begin in the near future will be offered during official hours, with employees assigned to the course, and the same course will be offered after hours with participants bearing the cost. A memorandum to Bureau Chiefs from Research and Marketing Administrator E. A. Meyer and Personnel Director T. Roy Reid indicated bureaus wished to assign 120 persons to take the course on official time, while 40 other employees wished to enroll after hours.

On the short term problem in the field, as it affects both Federal and state agencies, a meeting was held in Washington on February 7, of the Land-Grant College Department Committee on Training for Government Service, of which President Friley of Iowa State is Chairman. As a follow up of this meeting, presidents and deans of a number of Land-grant institutions met in Washington the week of March 1, to consider the possibility of setting up several regional institutes during the coming summer.

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PRESIDENT COMMISSIONS ON RESEARCH AND HIGHER EDUCATION

Many readers have followed closely findings and recommendations contained in the five-volume report of the President's Scientific and Research Board and the six-volume report of the President's Commission on Higher Education. Secretary Anderson served on the Board; W. V. Lambert (ARA), of the GS Board, was his alternate.

The first points out vividly the problems with us and to come, in research; many directly affecting USDA.

The report on higher education covers problems which affect Agriculture significantly. Volume III on "Organizing Higher Education," pp 35-50, touches but lightly on problems which concern the GS. A USDA committee under M. L. Wilson (Ext.), GS Board, developed USDA material provided the committee.

Read these two important reports! They are significant and readable. Copies may be obtained from the Government Printing Office.

GS LECTURES ON AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS

Some 550 persons crowded Jefferson Memorial Auditorium at 4:30 p.m., January 26, to hear Assistant Secretary Brannon speak on Long Range Agricultural Policy. Mr. Brannon chaired the USDA committee which developed the USDA policy proposals presented to the Hope Committee not long ago.

This was the sixth lecture in the GS series which is under the direction of W. A. Minor, Assistant to the Secretary, and T. Roy Reid, Director of Personnel, as part of the GS Department of Social Sciences program.

Previous speakers and topics: L. A. Wheeler (FAR), Foreign Agricultural Relations, Lyle F. Watts (FS), Our Forest Resources, Leonard Elmhurst of England, Work of the International Institute of Agricultural Economics, Keith Heimbaugh (Inf.), Importance of Accurate Information, W. A. Jump (S&F), Financing Agricultural Programs, and W. V. Lambert (ARA), New Research Developments.

For information on coming speakers and topics, call the GS business office or the Administrative Council (Ext. 3321).

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On the long-term problem of working out what is a most effective curriculum in marketing education, USDA and the Land-Grant Association are pooling their resources. A joint committee representing the land-grant institutions and the USDA has been named to work out recommendations in this area.

PROBLEMS FACING HIGHER EDUCATION

Dr. George F. Zook, President of the American Council on Education and Chairman, President's Commission on Higher Education, addressed the General Session of the Association of Land-Grant Colleges and Universities on November 10, 1947, on the subject, Problems Facing Higher Education. He proposed five major objectives for higher education to meet present day problems.

1. A public Junior College be established in all cities having a population of 25,000.
2. More attention to adult education. Adults must be given an opportunity to keep informed about current trends and developments affecting all phases of their lives.
3. More emphasis on preparation of university staff members. Staff members should know more about the psychological make-up of the students; the society in which they are a part; the objectives and problems of higher education; and be given more opportunity to develop professionally.
4. An aggressive program of National Defense, with special attention to the six essentials of an Integrated National Security Program as proposed by the President's Commission on Universal Training.
5. Modify college curricula to give more attention to international aspects of modern society with emphasis on modern history, international relations and natural resources.

Each of these points is treated in considerable detail in the reports of the President's Commission on Higher Education.

SMITH-MUNDT ACT SIGNED

Passage of the Smith-Mundt Bill is of special interest to USDA agencies, including FAR and GS, because of its provision for financing work with persons from foreign countries whose governments wish to send them to the US to gain experience in agriculture within the USDA, often combining this with educational work at a land-grant institution.

GS BOARD MEETS

At a January 22nd meeting, the GS General Administration Board (1) heard and approved O. V. Wells' report, as chairman of a sub-committee, on the proposed internship cooperation with Land-Grant Institutions (see elsewhere in this issue); (2) laid plans for re-evaluation of GS responsibilities and operations; (3) discussed several items affecting GS budgetary operations.

REPORTS FROM GS DEPARTMENTS

LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE

Vice chairman Shaw (Lib.) is investigating with the Special Libraries Association requests from that group that GS offer specialized (technical) library courses.

Albert Maverick is the latest USDA employee certified to take intensive language training through FAR and GS cooperation at State's Foreign Service Institute. Mr. Maverick is taking Spanish in anticipation of a transfer to USDA's Hoof and Mouth work in Mexico.

Chairman Schlup (Ext.) reports that information directors of major Government agencies are currently evaluating Languages and Literature's presentation methods program.

MATHEMATICS AND STATISTICS

Beginning late January, a series of meetings with faculty groups have been scheduled by Chairman Deming (Budget Bureau) to discuss program content. Elementary statistics instructors met January 27, using the NKC Wilkes reports, the preliminary Hotelling report, and discussions at the recent New York meetings as points of departure. Instructors in advanced statistics met on February 10.

Recent visitors interested in studying GS mathematics and statistics programs included representatives of the University of Alabama and Maurice H. Deltz, Department of Mathematics, University of Melbourne, Australia.

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

On January 22, the department committee under Chairman Moseman completed curricular plans for 1948-49. Seminars in new developments in insecticides, herbicides, and virus diseases of man and animals are planned for the 1948-49 program. Scientists participating in the fall indicated that program seminars were helpful.

TECHNOLOGY

At a recent meeting of the departmental committee, plans were made to combine four of the divisions. Under Marshall Wright (Sec.), chairman of the Division of Surveying and Mapping, (1) representatives of concerned Federal Agencies, (2) GS faculty, (3) National Photogrammetry Society, and (4) American Congress on Surveying and Mapping are expanding the course program in this area to the point where a certificate of achievement, at least equivalent to a MA, will be available.

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Under Secretary Dodd (GS Board) and Assistant to the Secretary Minor (Social Sciences) will chair sessions at the March annual conference of the American Society for Public Administration in Washington. Though formal programs have not been issued, Mr. Dodd's session will deal with the adequacy of machinery for Government-wide managerial control. Mr. Minor will have to do with grass-root coordination of Federal programs.

Two other GS persons, Patterson French (Budget Bureau), Social Sciences, and Lewis Rohrbaugh, GS Director, are helping shape general conference plans.

Reports from the Persons Committee (described previously in the NEWSLETTER) are in next to final form and are being discussed by divisional committees; the report has to do generally with departmental organization.

SOCIAL SCIENCES

A 1948-49 lecture series on Resource Development, Utilization and Conservation is being developed by a committee composed of Messrs. Josephson (FS), Chairman, V. W. Johnson (BAE), Barnes (PISAE), Holt (SCS), and Wilkins (Sec.).

Duncan Hall (British Embassy), Chairman of the Division of International Relations, along with Leslie Wheeler (FAR) and State Department representatives, is working on a special lecture series having to do with the foreign policies of the Great Powers, to be given this spring or next fall.

Chairman Waugh (Executive Office of the President) and committee members recently met with faculty members in economic theory. This is the first of a series of small informal meetings with faculty groups by subject matter areas to evaluate current courses and contents.

PHYSICAL SCIENCES

A special and outstanding lecture series on "Food Technology - Principles and Practices" is being offered in the spring semester under the technical direction of Dr. A. H. Warth, Chemical Director of Crown Cork and Seal Co., and Maryland members of the Institute of Food Technologists. The series will bring to Washington industrial experts from companies including: Kraft Cheese, Coca Cola, National Dairy Products, and American Preserves. The series represents a unique offering in a significant field.

Albert F. Woods, former GS Director, Director of Scientific Work, and other USDA positions, is recovering, at his home, from a serious illness. We know he would be glad to hear from his many USDA friends, or to see them if he is allowed visitors. Dr. Woods retired from GS on December 31, 1946.

PERSONALS

Dr. Frederick L. Thomsen has returned to the Department of Agriculture as Director of the Marketing Research Branch in the Production and Marketing Administration.

Dr. Horace W. Norton (Weather Bureau) GS instructor in calculus transferred to Oak Ridge as Statistician on November 1. Dr. F. J. Weyl, Mathematician, Mathematics Branch, Office of Naval Research, has replaced Dr. Norton as instructor in calculus.

Dr. Jaspar Shannon, former Assistant Director of the Graduate School, was a GS visitor on December 31. He was in Washington attending the annual meetings of the American Political Science Association. Dr. Shannon is on the staff of the University of Kentucky.

Howard S. Rappleye, GS instructor in surveying, has been elected treasurer of the Washington Academy of Sciences for 1948. Mr. Rappleye is Chief, Section of Leveling, U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey.

Dr. E. J. Finan, former GS instructor in calculus, was recently appointed Graduate Dean of Arts and Sciences at Catholic University.

IN MEMORIUM

C. A. Briggs, GS instructor in photography, passed away on November 20. At the time of his death, Mr. Briggs was President of the National Photographic Society and Chairman of the C. A. Briggs Educational Committee of the National Scalesmen's Association. Mr. Briggs had been active in many professional and civic organizations in Washington following his retirement.

NEW YORK COUNTY AGENT IN D. C. ON SABBATICAL LEAVE

Clarence S. Denton, County Agricultural Agent from Delaware County, New York is spending his sabbatical leave in Extension's Division of Field Studies and Training. Mr. Denton is taking work at the University of Maryland and the Graduate School.

Returns from the 1947-48 Student Questionnaire on the GS resident program in Washington, issued early in January, are being compiled, and will soon be available to departmental and associated committees. Faculty members will be mailed a course summary in the near future; individual questionnaires are now available in the GS office for review.

The questionnaire represents an effort to secure student appraisal of and suggestions on courses and course programs, course descriptions, etc. Faculty members participated in shaping the questionnaire. Data are being summarized by course, program and department. It is the second such survey; the first, in 1946-47, proved extremely valuable to faculty and committee members. General results of the survey will appear in the next NEWSLETTER.

SCRANTON AND LOYOLA INAUGURATE PRESIDENTS

Dr. F. F. Lininger, Director, Agricultural Experiment Station, Pennsylvania State College, represented GS at the inauguration of Joseph Eugene Gallery, S. J., as President of the University of Scranton on February 23, 1948.

Dr. John B. Whitelaw, Chairman of the Department of Education, Johns Hopkins University, represented GS at the inauguration of Francis Xavier Talbot, S. J., as President of Loyola College on December 3, 1947. Dr. Whitelaw, until this year, was a member of the GS Committee on Information.

USDA PERSONNEL OFFICERS RECOMMEND EXTENSION OF GS ACTIVITIES TO FIELD

USDA Administrators and Personnel Officers, meeting in Biloxi, Mississippi during the week of December 1, recommended that "the Department should utilize present university and college facilities in areas where Federal employees are located and when such are inadequate, that the Graduate School consider establishing some type of field centers at appropriate places in order to bring these facilities to the field."

The recommendation will be presented to the General Administration Board by T. Roy Reid, Chairman, and Director Rohrbaugh.

The NEWSLETTER is issued at intervals for information of faculty, committees and others interested. Address all inquiries to Vera Jensen, Room 1031, Ext. 4419.